

5 March 1959

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Discussion relative to the Re-organization of the  
Board on Geographic Names and its committees

1. A meeting was held this date in Dr. Guthe's office. Present were:

Dr. Otto E. Guthe, AD/RR

██████████, Chief, D/GC/RR

Mr. G. Etzel Percy, Geographer, State Department

Capt. K. A. Knowles, AD/BI

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2. The meeting was called at the request of Mr. Percy as a result of new developments stemming from the separation of the domestic names work under the Geological Survey. Mr. Percy felt that the general situation had deteriorated following the Secretary of Interior's directive assigning the domestic names duties to the Geological Survey and setting up a separate executive secretary for this work. ██████████ has been attempting to persuade Mr. Carmichael, Smithsonian Institute, to take over the functions of both foreign and domestic name work as a result of permission from the Department of the Interior to find a new location for this activity. The representative of the Geological Survey desires to separate out completely domestic name work in line with the aforementioned directive, and to create a separate executive secretary to serve both at the committee level and board level.

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3. Dr. Guthe and I had previously discussed this matter over the telephone and he presented our consolidated views: that there should be two executive secretaries, one for domestic names (Geological Survey appointee) and one for foreign names ██████████, each of whom would serve both at the committee and board levels in their respective fields. The Board on Geographic Names would continue to function in accordance with the basic act and would deal with both domestic and foreign names policies. It was our position that the new set-up would reflect the actual situation created by the Secretary of the Interior in assigning the domestic names function to the Geological Survey.

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